

LETAC Progress Report:

Where are we now? Where are we heading?

Purpose. Formed by City Council, the purpose of the Law Enforcement Transparency and Accountability Commission (LETAC) is to make recommendations to Council to promote improved understanding and relationships between the Colorado Springs Police Department and the public. LETAC does not have oversight over CSPD, nor does LETAC investigate police-involved incidents or propose actions against department personnel. Visit [Law Enforcement Transparency and Accountability Commission | Colorado Springs](#) to see complete statements of LETAC's mission and goals, as well as the ordinance that authorized its formation.

Where are we now? LETAC has concluded its “Listening and Learning” phase during which four broad topics were identified for preliminary exploration in the first half of the year:

- *Communications between CSPD and city residents*
- *Racial Bias*
- *Crisis Response Teams*
- *Use of Force*

LETAC regular meetings are:
1st and 3rd Monday of every month, 6-8 PM.
[Click to Join Meeting\(link is external\)](#)
via Microsoft Teams.
Telephone: 720-617-3426
Conference ID: 629 946 63#

At its July 6 meeting, LETAC unanimously adopted a recommendation to City Council to expand the use of Crisis Response Teams to meet the needs of the City of Colorado Springs. The recommendation was formally presented to City Council at its meeting on July 26.

- In June, LETAC began a reconsideration of the City's **Crisis Response** services. In Colorado Springs, this approach to calls-for-service involving mental/behavioral health, substance abuse, and similar concerns is interdisciplinary and interdepartmental, with participation by the Police Department, the Fire Department, and Diversus Health. Drafting of a formal recommendation began.
- At its July 6 meeting, LETAC discussed the draft recommendation, made several changes, and unanimously passed a recommendation which was posted on LETAC's webpage. The full text of the recommendation can be seen [here](#).
- As part of its recommendation, LETAC established seven goals for successful expansion of CR services: 1. Expand CRT coverage (e.g., 24/7 coverage, additional shifts and/or teams, new models, etc.) so that Crisis Response services are more available as appropriate to Colorado Springs residents. 2. Decrease reliance on police officers as sole responders to mental health crises. 3. Reduce use of force by police officers. 4. Increase safety to police officers and other first responders. 5. Provide intervention and treatment to residents in need of mental health services who may not have been previously identified. 6. Create more reliable funding so that CRT operations are less dependent upon grants that may not be stable or sustainable. 7. Continue to align the City's CRT approach so that it matches or exceeds best practices in comparable jurisdictions.
- The Commission has neither complete information nor the expertise to advocate for a specific budget amount or operational approach. At the request of its City Council liaisons and the Council President, LETAC submitted broad approaches Council may wish to consider, including adding shifts or teams to those in place and exploring other models.
- At its July 19 meeting, LETAC also discussed and informally agreed on the purpose and format of further listening sessions/town halls/forums out in the community.
- On July 26, LETAC appeared before City Council to present its recommendation and respond to questions. The presentation can be viewed by [clicking here](#) and going to time index 46:15.

Where are we headed? On August 2, LETAC will hear updates from several sub-committees that have been working independently through the spring and early summer on various aspects of the listening and learning topics. LETAC also informally identified communications between the community and CSPD (i.e., community outreach) as its next topic for possible recommendations.